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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,497	02/04/2005	Ian Fraser Jarvies	08830-0311US1	1844
23973	7590	01/22/2008	EXAMINER	
DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH			ALLEN, CAMERON J	
ATTN: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ONE LOGAN SQUARE			1797	
18TH AND CHERRY STREETS			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103-6996			01/22/2008	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/523,497	JARVIES ET AL.
	Examiner Cameron J. Allen	Art Unit 1797

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 November 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 04 February 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Response to Arguments***

The examiner takes note that claims 1-2 are now pending in the instant application. Without acquiescing in any ground of rejection, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of allowable claim 5, and intervening claim 4. Claims 4 and 5 have been cancelled. Claims 6 -10 have been cancelled, mooting the rejections of those claims. All claim amendments and cancellations are without prejudice to the filing of continuing applications.

The indicated allowability of claim 5 now incorporated in claim 1 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Cooper US 5,174,877. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Cooper et al US 5,174,877.

Regarding claim 1, Cooper teaches an apparatus for the treatment of hazardous

material and decontamination of items (Column 1 line 20-24)) contaminated with such material comprising an operator accessible treatment vessel adapted to hold said hazardous material or contaminated items: (Figure 16) a holding tank capable of holding a carrier medium (Column 6 line 46), a catalyst hopper capable of holding a catalyst (column 3 line 29-30), a mixing vessel facilitating mixing of the carrier medium and the catalyst (Column 6 line 45-46) *The examiner also interprets the mixing to induce turbulent flow.*, wherein the treatment vessel comprises one or more treatment chambers (Figure 16) *The examiner interprets multiple reactors to have multiple compartments*, the treatment chambers comprising a housing containing a plurality of treatment beds (Figure 2c and Column 7 line 1-2) and a light source capable of irradiating contents within the treatment chambers with a predetermined wavelength of light (Column 7 line 6-9), and a distribution header for controlling the flow of carrier medium and catalyst into the treatment Chambers (Figure 2c) (column 6 line 55-56)

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper et al US 5,174, 877 in further view of Baron WO 99/61075.

Regarding claim 2, Cooper teaches an apparatus according to Claim 1 but does not teach wherein the treatment vessel comprises at least one tray for holding the hazardous material or contaminated items, and distribution means for circulating a carrier medium within or through the apparatus. Baron does teach wherein the treatment vessel comprises at least one tray for holding the hazardous material or contaminated items(Figure 2 208), and distribution means for circulating a carrier medium within or through the apparatus. (Figure 7 702) It would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the Cooper apparatus with Baron for the added expected benefit of being able to support the contaminated items.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cameron J. Allen whose telephone number is 571-270-3164. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 9-7pm.

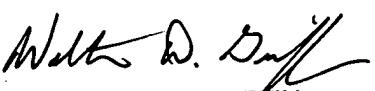
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1447. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Application/Control Number:  
10/523,497  
Art Unit: 1797

Page 6

CJA

  
WALTER D. GRIFFIN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER